

II CORINTHIANS Chapter 1

1. Read verses 3.

- 1.1. How does Paul describe God the Father in this verse?
- 1.2. What does the word “comfort” bring to mind?
- 1.3. How is the word “comfort” typically defined?
- 1.4. The word used for “comfort” in this verse (*paraklesis*, Strong’s G3874) means to come alongside, encourage, strengthen. How does this differ from what is typically thought of as providing comfort for someone?

2. Read verse 4.

- 2.1. What are some ways in which God provides comfort for our afflictions?
- 2.2. Have you ever experienced affliction, or a trial in which God provided immediate deliverance?
 - 2.2.1. Have you ever experienced a trial for which He did not?
- 2.3. How does the Lord come alongside us during our trials? (See Psalm 23:4, Isaiah 41:10, John 14:16, John 16:7.)
- 2.4. In this verse, Paul also explains an important purpose for tribulations in the life of the believer. What is it?
- 2.5. What kind of affliction or tribulation are we able to provide comfort for others, according to verse 4?
- 2.6. Does this mean that we must experience the exact same type of trial or affliction to be able to comfort someone else who is going through a trial?
- 2.7. What or *who* is the source of the comfort with which we comfort others? Why is this important to recognize? (See 2 Corinthians 3:5-6).



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3. Read verses 8 - 10

3.1. Paul refers to a time of tribulation during his missionary travels in Asia. How severe was this trial, based on his description?

3.2. What was the outcome, and what did Paul learn from this experience? (verse 10, Phil 4:12-13, Isaiah 40:29)

3.3. Can you share about a time that the Lord taught you not to depend upon your own strength during a trial?

3.3.1. How has that impacted your faith?

3.3.2. How has it impacted your ability to endure subsequent trials?

3.3.3. How has it empowered you to provide comfort for others who are enduring tribulation? (See also Romans 5:3-5, James 1:2-4.)